

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Rathenow

25X1

25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

8 August 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES

2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SECRET TO CIA  
 MILITARY

1. During the period from 7 to 19 July 1952, the Infanterie Kaserne at Nordbahnhof, Rathenow (N 53/Z 15), quartered about 200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, about two thirds of them with motor transport insignia and one third with artillery and signal insignia. The troops were engaged in driving practice and guard duty.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

2. Between 7 and 19 July, the Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse quartered about 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia.

25X1

3. During the period from 7 to 19 July, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Semliner Strasse quartered a rear detail of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Troops practiced with weapons and received driving lessons with prime movers.

25X1

4. Between 7 and 19 July, the Ziethen Kaserne on Bahnhofstrasse was only lightly occupied by a rear detail of soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia.

25X1

5. On 10 and 11 July, a unit of soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets conducted an exercise on the Havel River, just northwest of Rathenow.

25X1

On 12 July, large troop concentrations and artillery pieces, AT guns and at least 500 motor vehicles, tanks and armored scout cars were observed on the Elbe River in the area of Schoenhausen-Fischbeck-Jerichow. At 4 p.m. on 12 July, five T-34/85 tanks, were loaded at the Schoenhausen railroad station. At 1 p.m. on 13 July, trucks carrying troops with red-bordered black epaulets and towing AT guns of 76.2-mm, 57-mm and 45-mm caliber were loaded at the Jerichow railroad station. On the same day, at 2:30 p.m., 76.2-mm, 57-mm and 45-mm AT guns and a four-wheel armored scout car and trucks

25X1

25X1

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

SECURITY/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1

- 2 -

25X1 [redacted] were loaded at the Schoenhausen railroad station. The  
 25X1 loadings were still going on on 11 July. At 6:45 a.m. on 17 July, 30 trucks  
 25X1 [redacted] driven by soldiers wearing red-  
 bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, drove through Rathenow toward  
 Stendal-Genthin.

6. During the period from 9 to 11 July, numerous columns with AT guns, rocket  
 launchers, half-track vehicles were seen in the area of Rathenow. Trucks towing  
 57-mm AT guns [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] and half-track vehicles mounting rocket  
 25X1 launchers [redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1 \* [redacted] Comment. The four barracks installations in Rathenow are still occupied  
 25X1 by rear details as was reported at the beginning of July 1952.  
 25X1 [redacted]

25X1 \*\* [redacted] Comment. The exercises held from 10 to 12 July, were conducted by units  
 of the Fourth Gds Hecz Army, including elements of the 25th Tank Div and the  
 63d AAA Div (US). [redacted] The present report tends to indicate  
 25X1 that the exercises started just northwest of Rathenow and extended along the  
 eastern bank of the Elbe River as far as the Jerichow area. The loadings  
 observed confirm the return of units of the army which [redacted]

25X1

25X1 [redacted] were shipped from Schoenhausen to the area of Templin in about 11  
 trains on 12 and 13 July 1952. [redacted]

25X1

SECURITY/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY